

The GFIS vision and concept

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What is GFIS?

1. Partnership to organize forestry information

2. An internet gateway that provides access to forest-related information through a single entry point

at www.gfis.net



Mission

Create a common platform for forest-related institutions to describe and share information using common standards and tools.



Vision

Support the conservation and sustainable management of forests through enhanced access to all types of forest information.



GFIS and CPF



- GFIS is a CPF initiative;
- It is led by IUFRO;
- CABI, CIFOR, FAO, NBII and the UNFF secretariat are core partners;
- GFIS is open for partners outside CPF;
- A GFIS report at the CPF meeting on 13 February 2006
 was much appreciated and the UNFF-6 in its resolution
 invites GFIS and the other CPF initiatives to continue and
 further develop these initiatives.



Objectives 2006-2010

- All GFIS partners use common data exchange formats for various information;
- All CPF members and half of all IUFRO members participate in GFIS;
- Half of all GFIS partners come from developing countries;
- Full text web search service of GFIS partners is available.



What is GFIS good for?

- Helps partners organize information and make it available;
- Helps users to find forestry information from one place;
- Strengthens international collaboration.



What do we mean by "GFIS partnership"

- Participating is voluntary, but implies a commitment;
- Minimal centralized overhead to make core functions work;
- Easy to participate and provide information.



How does it work?

- 1. Partners manage their own information;
- 2. Common GFIS standard for information exchange;
- 3. Partners make their metadata available in these formats;
- 4. GFIS harvests and indexes the metadata;
- 5. Users search;
- 6. Feedback to partners on information usage.



Where are we?

- GFIS is operational at <u>www.gfis.net</u>;
- So far, 4 information types in the GFIS standard;
 - (events, news, publications, job vacancies)
- Partners provide information;
- The solution is scaleable.



Where are we going?

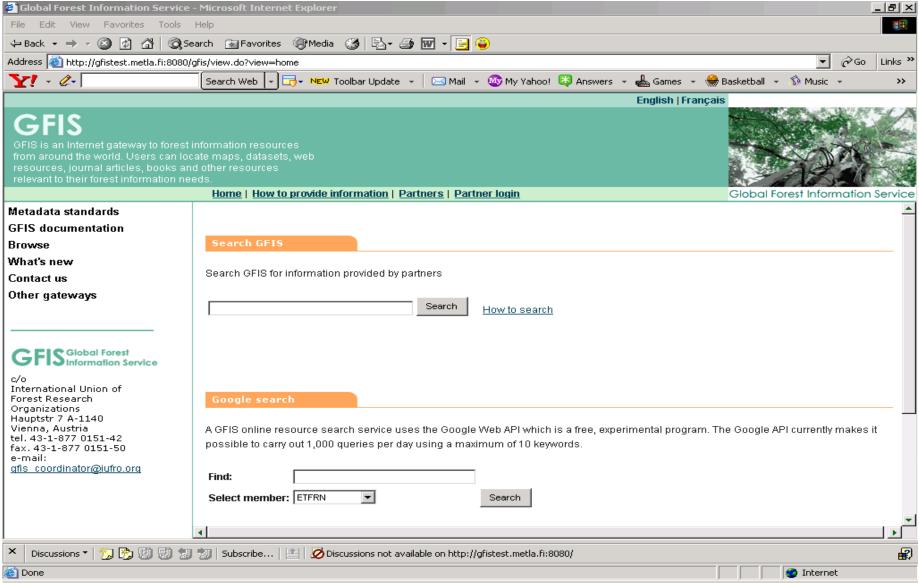
- The GFIS Standard will continue to develop, e.g. standards for datasets, databases;
- Cooperation with other networks and initiatives;
- Gateway functionality will expand;
- Many more partners will join, Africa, Asia, Latin America, Russia etc.



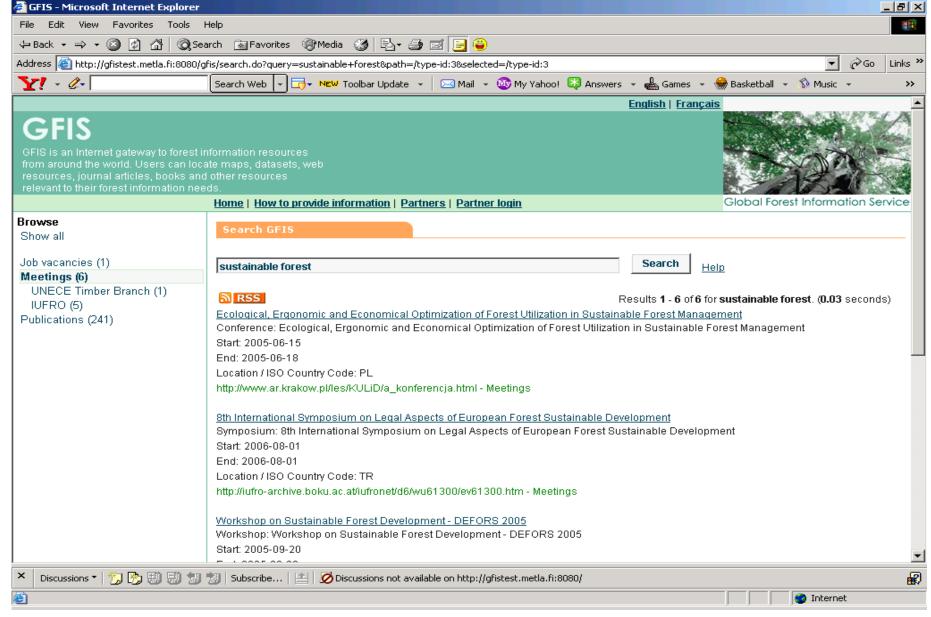
GFIS:

- Helps partners to broadcast their information and users to find it;
- Is owned by partners;
- Helps prevent duplication of effort;
- Enhances networking in forestry.











How to provide your information to GFIS:

These are the steps to take if you want to provide information from your organization to GFIS:

- 1. Request a user account for your organization from gfis_coordinator@iufro.org.
- 2. Login details will be provided from the GFIS coordinator;
- 3. Create metadata files using the GFIS standard. The files should contain the records you want to make available to GFIS;
- 4. Post the files on a web server visible from the internet;
- 5. Log in to GFIS and add the location of your metadata files, as well as the frequency by which they will be updated by you;
- 6. Your information will now be harvested and included in GFIS searches.



Welcome to GFIS as a user or/and as an information provider!

Thank you for your attention!